

The Knoxville Independent

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"No men living are more worthy to be trusted than those who toil up from poverty, none less inclined to take or much ought which they have not honestly earned."—Abraham Lincoln.

UNITED MINE WORKERS OF AMERICA.
District 19.
Headquarters, Pineville, Ky.
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Graysville, Tenn.
P. P. Lynch..... Vice President
Soddy, Tenn.T. M. Gann..... Secretary-Treas.
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DELEGATES TO TENNESSEE

FEDERATION OF LABOR
T. J. Smith..... Graysville, Tenn.
Alf Martin..... Soddy, Tenn.
Thos. M. Gann..... Knoxville, Tenn.

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE FOR

TENNESSEE
T. J. Smith..... Graysville, Tenn.
DELEGATE TO KENTUCKY FED-ERATION OF LABOR
John Jeffrey..... Pittsburgh, Ky.
LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE FORKENTUCKY
John McIlquhan..... Pittsburgh, Ky.

The strike of workers at the Tanglewood fields was of short duration.

Governor Brumbaugh of Pennsylvania vetoed the bill which would have suspended the full crew law passed in 1911.

Carpenters employed at the government camp at Wrightstown, N. J., have been making as high as \$100 per week.

Public sentiment in the Michigan upper peninsula is so pronounced against the I. W. W. that I do not believe it will be able to start anything.—Governor Sleeper of Michigan.

John Golden, president of the United Textile Workers of America, and Frank Farrington, an officer of the United Mine Workers of America, are delegates of the American Federation of Labor to the British Trade Union congress.

Favors Six Hour Day.

Lord Leverhulme, large soap manufacturer of Manchester, England, has declared in favor of the six hour day and suggests that two shifts might be worked—one from 7 a. m. to 1:30 p. m. with half an hour for breakfast and the other from 1:30 p. m. to 8 p. m. with half an hour for supper, the workers to take each shift in alternate weeks.

Bar the World's Workers.

Globe (Ariz.) mining companies will take back striking miners who belong to the International Union of Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers who apply for re-employment, but I. W. W. members will be turned down summarily.

Workers' Wages Increased.

Iron, steel and woolen manufacturing workers' earnings per capita for the two and a half year period just ended increased more than the advance in the retail prices of foodstuffs for the three year period, July, 1914, to July, 1917. A statement by the department of labor shows that iron and steel workers' per capita earnings increased 53 per cent and woolen manufacturing workers' 45 per cent, while the cost of foodstuffs increased 42 per cent. Workers in other industries did not fare so well. Per capita earnings of boot and shoe workers increased 31 per cent, cotton manufacturing employees and cotton finishing workers .38 per cent, hosiery and underwear workers 37 per cent and silk workers 25 per cent.

LABOR'S FAULT.

The amount of commerce that can be controlled by the members of organized labor directing their purchasing power toward the consumption of union label goods is sufficient to control the commerce of the country, because it can easily represent the difference between success and failure with nearly every merchant. That it has not had this effect is simply because organized labor has not used its financial strength. The fault is the union man's, and his is the opportunity to apply the remedy by doing his duty.

FIXING WOMEN'S WAGES.

California's New Scale Provides That \$10 Shall Be Minimum.

The supreme court decision of April 9, upholding the constitutionality of the Oregon minimum wage law, has given impetus to the enforcement of state minimum wage legislation that has been awaiting federal judgment.

The Arkansas supreme court has upheld the Arkansas minimum wage law providing a flat rate of recompense for inexperienced women employees of not less than \$1 and for those employed over six months of not less than \$1.25 for a day of nine hours.

"The strength, intelligence and virtue of each generation," declared the court, "depend to a great extent upon the mothers. Therefore the health and morals of the women are a matter of grave concern to the public, and consequently to the state itself."

More recently still the state industrial welfare commission of California has announced a revised wage schedule for women employed in mercantile establishments. It provides that no experienced woman shall be employed in any mercantile industry of the state at a wage less than \$10 a week, or \$43.33 a month.

A lower wage is set for learners, starting with a minimum of \$6 a week for girl learners under eighteen years of age and a minimum of \$8 a week for girls starting to work between eighteen and twenty years. In each case the wages will be automatically increased 50 cents a week every six months until the minimum wage of \$10 a week for experienced workers is reached. Learners starting work at twenty years or over begin at a minimum of \$8 a week and receive an automatic increase of 50 cents every six months until \$10 is reached.

The regulation stipulates that no woman or minor will be allowed to work in a mercantile industry more than eight hours in any one day or forty-eight hours in any one week.—Survey.

POORLY PAID GIRLS.

New York Women Get but 10 Cents a Week Over Bare Living.

In a letter sent broadcast to the laboring men of New York city and state Mary E. Dreier, chairman of the industrial section of the New York State Woman Suffrage party, points out that 10 cents a week must meet all the expenses of the average working girl of this city outside her room and board, lunches, car fare and clothes. "For doctor, dentist, reading matter, church dues, outings in the summer and amusements in the winter, all of the hundred and one incidental expenses, these girls have exactly 10 cents a week left from their wages," says Miss Dreier.

"The average wage in this state," says the communication, "is between \$6 and \$7 a week. What does this \$6 buy?"

One-half of a furnished room.....\$1.50
Breakfast and dinners.....2.10
Lunches......70
Car fare......50
Clothes, \$52 per year.....1.00
\$5.90

"The balance 10 cents, must meet all other expenses."

Miss Dreier says the conditions under which working women must earn their meager wage as the basis of an appeal for universal suffrage.

Railroad Jobs For Women.

The Pennsylvania railroad is making arrangements to accommodate from 400 to 600 female workers in its shops at Fort Wayne, Ind. They are to be paid the same wages as men doing the same class of work and will wear one piece uniforms bifurcated to the knees and fastened at the ankles. The women will be employed at cleaning cars, distributing material and caretaking about the plant.

HOLDS UP HIS HEAD.

The union man carries his head high because he has nothing to be ashamed of; because he represents the highest standard of skill and merit; because he is in a position to demand wages which are adequate to the actual value he is to his employer; because he is capable of performing the highest grade of skilled labor in the most expert manner; because he has been wise enough to emulate the example of his boss in amalgamating with others of his craft, just as his employer has done with others of capital and belongs to an organization which is both able and willing to protect him and which will go to any extreme to keep him up to the level to which he belongs. Why should he not hold up his head? Who has a better right?

NO LABOR SHORTAGE.

Women Should Not Be Employed For Men's Jobs if Men Can Be Found.

Employment of women at work which men can do will meet with support from Paul Gendell, in charge of the Pennsylvania state labor employment bureau, in Philadelphia. Mr. Gendell is to be superintendent of the employment work in eight counties which is to be done under the State Committee of Public Safety.

"It makes me angry sometimes to hear all this talk about using women in industries when I can show you fifty men a day who can't get a job, in spite of the fact that it is claimed there is work for all," Mr. Gendell said.

"There shouldn't be any hurry to use women in work which they never were intended to do until all the men have been utilized. And this is not being done. There is an astonishing waste of labor because of the lack of thought by employers in selecting their help."

"They are starting to use women now at jobs like greasing engines and other work which doesn't require much physical labor or intelligence. There is a large class of male labor, composed of men who haven't the physical stamina for hard jobs nor the mental tenacity for clerical or indoor work, which can be utilized at such jobs as this and in other work which merely requires somebody to be there."

"Employers either apply for men who are capable of working in steel mills at 30 cents an hour or more for jobs like this, and offer them \$10 and \$12 a week, perhaps at loading platforms, where any one with less than ordinary intelligence and little physical strength could perform the work just as well. They don't use discrimination in giving employment, and they make no attempt to fit the man to the job. That's the reason men are turned away from our bureau after a long, hard effort to get them work. They are capable of doing work for which poor labor is sufficient, but employers insist on labor which is far superior to the low class of work intended for them."

"There are jobs small, weak men can do which are given to big, strong men. The small, weak men are left without jobs, and the employer who might have used the big, strong man complains about the shortage of labor. Or if the big, strong man is given the big, strong job, perhaps they will put a woman at the work the small, weak man could do. It's lack of intelligent thought and a broad minded way of looking at the labor problem which is responsible for a lot of the trouble in the labor situation."

"Employers must be educated and awakened to the need for thoughtful and careful adjustments of their help before the labor problem will commence to be solved."

The Pope's Proposals.

Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, in a recent statement said: "Of course anything that the pope may say must be seriously considered by labor. In my judgment, however," continued Mr. Gompers, "there is only one basis for permanent peace—either the abdication of kaiserism to the democracies of the world or the democracies must crush kaiserism. The proposals of the pope, in my judgment, contain nothing to insure the peoples of the world against the recurrence of war. This is a war of democracy against autocracy. Our attitude toward the people of Germany is one of pity, and we have no feeling against the kaiser as a man, but as a kaiser."

Harvesters to Canada.

American labor will help harvest the Canadian grain crop under an arrangement reached between W. W. Cory, Canadian deputy commissioner of the interior, and department of labor officials. American harvest hands will be permitted for the first time to enter Canada. Immigration regulations will be waived by both countries. Thousands of Americans are expected to go across the border.

Oppose Child Labor Law.

Eastern Ohio glass workers are seeking the suspension during the war of the child labor law prohibiting the employment of children under sixteen years of age in so far as the statute affects glass factories. The Ohio valley trades and labor assembly has gone on record as opposed to repeal or modification of the law during the war.

Carpenters Get Raise.

Carpenters of Bar Harbor, Me., have been granted an increase in wages without strike. A town ordinance increased wages of common laborers 50 cents per day. Employment is steady. Constant agitation is being carried on for the labels.

WAGE ADJUSTMENT.

I am familiar with the Canadian compulsory act, and I want to say that it has not only failed of its purpose—the prevention of strikes—but has engendered considerable antagonism against those in charge of the machinery of the law. What is actually happening in Canada is that the Lemieux law is being disregarded in labor disputes, and voluntary mediation is generally resorted to by both sides. Moreover, I am against that section of your proposed plan which would leave to the wage board the adjustment of wages. That is a matter for the employer and employee to settle.—Hugh Frayne.

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FROM ALL PARTS OF TENNESSEE

Reports of Interesting Events Boiled Down for Hasty Perusal.

Bristol.—The local Girl Scouts have raised a special fund of \$300 for the local militia companies.

Athens.—The Rev. Sigel B. Ogle of Nashville has been called to the pastorate of the First Baptist church at Athens.

Newbern.—The cotton crop in this county is reported to be later in opening than ever known in the history of the county.

Union City.—Quite a sum of money is being made for the local Red Cross by a chain of social afternoons given by women members of the organization.

Selmer.—Dr. W. W. Wallace is at his father's home here, suffering with a broken leg, the result of an accident with his automobile near Wenasoga, Miss.

McKenzie.—All local schools have reopened with good attendance, the high school, in charge of J. D. Mullins, with 11 assistants, was the first to open.

Dyersburg.—The annual convention of the Knights of the Macabees will be held here Nov. 6, and delegates from various chapters of the state will be present.

Lexington.—Rev. C. S. Thomas has resigned the care of the Baptist church at Parsons and accepted a call to the First church, Jonesboro, Ill., effective Oct. 1.

Dyersburg.—E. F. Arnold, farm demonstration agent for Dyer county for the last year, has resigned to accept the management of the Moss Bros. farms in this county.

Jackson.—When the pressure tank at the International Rubber Sales company exploded Will Ross, an employee, standing near the tank, was painfully cut and bruised.

Huntingdon.—Hon. John T. Peeler has been appointed election commissioner for Carroll county to fill the vacancy in the local board caused by the resignation of W. E. Hailey.

Shelbyville.—A man giving the name of George B. committed suicide in his cell in the Bedford county jail here a short while before noon. He was confined in jail on the charge of larceny.

Jackson.—Criminal court convened here with Judge Barham presiding. A request to postpone the case of Lee McClain, charged with murder, was granted. The case was postponed to Sept. 17.

Rogersville.—Three lately commissioned young men from Rogersville, First Lieut. Fred H. Parvin, Second Lieut. William M. Pierce and Hood Smith have been spending a few days here before beginning active service.

Dyersburg.—A contracting firm of Dyersburg has been awarded the contract to build the gravel road from Tiptonville to Reelfoot Lake. The contract was approved by Secretary Murray of the state highway commission. Plans are on foot to complete a gravel road entirely around the lake.

Dyersburg.—M. E. Magee, Sam Ferguson and John L. Sinclair, election commissioners for Dyer county, have opened the registration books for the purpose of registration, and to continue open for ten days, for the regular biennial registration.

68 Naval Medical Posts to Fill.
Washington, Sept. 6.—Examinations for assistant surgeons to fill 68 vacancies in the medical corps of the navy will be held at various points September 17.Korniloff Is Nearing Petrograd.
Petrograd.—Gatchina, 30 miles south-southwest of Petrograd, has been occupied by the forces of General Korniloff. Another Korniloff force is 34 miles south of Petrograd in the direction of Tsarskoe Selo. General Krimoff, commander of the Korniloff troops, is at Luga, 90 miles southwest of Petrograd. No fighting has occurred so far.Cheaper Milk in Sight.
Washington.—Cheaper milk for the consumer is indicated as the hope of the Food Administration, in a statement issued forecasting reductions in cattle feed costs.A GREAT MOVEMENT.
The labor movement is a down on the earth bread and butter proposition calculated to benefit the membership now as well as in the future.

The battle of trade unionism is a battle for the home, for manhood and womanhood and a higher standard of civilization. Organization of labor is the only thing that will secure to the individual the proper return for the labor expended in any given trade or calling.

The Making of the Flag

by Wilbur D Nesbitt
Author of
"Your Flag and My Flag"

How did we make the flag?

By rule?

By compass, and square, and line?
With pattern, and thread, and the sempster's tool,
To follow the plain design?
Was it only the lore that the draftsmen knew
That gave us the red, and the white, and blue?

How did we make the flag?

Not all

By measuring stitch and seam,
For part of it came from a country call
And part of it is a dream—
Is a vision that led brave souls aright,
And gave us the red, and the blue, and white.

How did we make the flag?

In peace

We fashioned it fold on fold,
In war it was blend with the grim caprice
The drums in their summons rolled.
'Twas the courage alike of the quick and dead
That gave us the blue, and the white, and red.

How did we make the flag?

'Twas thus

It came to its grace and worth,
Through all that is good in the souls of us
The banner has had its birth,
'Twas the holier strength of the purpose true
That gave us the red, and the white, and blue.

Thus have we made the flag?

Ah, no!

By colors that will not fade,
By sinuous sweep and by deathless glow,
'Tis us that the flag has made!
And it whispers today to each star-told state,
"You must hold me high and must keep me great!"

(Copyright, 1917, by W. D. Nesbitt.)

"MADE IN AMERICA"

What's the Use?

Why not pledge yourself to use "Made In America" goods exclusively?

American artisans can equal the handiwork of any other country.

There's no reason why prices should be higher and many reasons for keeping the money at home.

The billions that go to Europe will now keep all American workmen employed. You do your part.

Midvale Admits Employees.
Following out the plan adopted by the United Steel corporation, officials of the Midvale Steel and Ordnance company have announced a plan whereby all of its 28,000 employees may become stockholders in the company at a special price, with dividends guaranteed. Its employees will be allowed to buy stock, par \$50 a share, at \$60, the amount allowed to each employee being gauged by his salary. Dividends of not less than \$8 a share, or 12 per cent, are guaranteed for a five year period. The present selling price of Midvale stock is around \$63 a share.Send Us Your Job Printing.
We do Job Printing at Fair Prices.
Subscribe for the Independent.Unions Will Speed Army Work.
Clothing contractors in Boston seeking part of the \$9,000,000 contracts to be placed by the war department have received assurances of co-operation from union labor leaders in Boston. L. Marcovitz, general manager for the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America, told the contractors that government work would be put through with all possible speed and that no delays would occur through labor disputes.